IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A network system connecting a plurality of different types of user terminal devices and a network server via a known communication system, wherein

each of said plurality of different types of user terminal devices comprises:

memory loaded into the terminal device; said removable memory storing user specific information, and

means for transmitting said user specific information and information identifying a type of said terminal device of said plurality of different types of user terminal devices used by a user—as specific information when said removable memory is loaded, wherein said information identifying said type of terminal device includes terminal type attributes and media type attributes corresponding to said—the type of terminal device; and said network server comprises:

means for receiving said specific information transmitted by said type of terminal device used by said user,

means for registering said user specific information and said information identifying said type of terminal

device included in said specific information as registered information,

means for updating said <u>registered</u> information identifying said type of terminal device corresponding to said user specific information,

means for identifying a latest type of the terminal device, based on said updated information by said means for updating, currently being used by said user and for authenticating said user by referring to said registered information,

means for converting message information addressed to said authenticated user from a first data format incompatible with said_the type of said_terminal device to a second data format compatible with said_the type of said_terminal device based on said terminal type attributes and said media type attributes of said terminal device currently being used by said user, and

means for transmitting said converting the converted message information to said type of terminal device currently being used by said user.

Claim 2. (canceled)

Claim 3. (currently amended) The network system according to claim 1, wherein said means for registering erases said

registered information when said <u>removable</u> memory <u>means</u> is extracted from said terminal device.

Claims 4-9. (canceled)

Claim 10. (currently amended) A network system connecting a plurality of different types of user terminal devices owned by a user and a network server via a communication system, wherein each of said plurality of different types of user terminal devices comprises:

memory <u>loaded</u> into the terminal device; said removable memory storing user specific information, and

means for transmitting said user specific information and device information identifying a type or a location of a usersaid terminal device of said plurality of different types of user terminal devices from which the user accesses the communication system when said removable memory is loaded therein, wherein said device information includes terminal type attributes and media type attributes corresponding to said the type of terminal device; and said network server comprises:

means for receiving said user specific information and said device information transmitted by said user terminal device in which said removable memory is loaded,

Application No.: 09/518,808 Docket No.: SONYJP 3.0-704

means for registering said user specific information and said device information in a table,

means for deleting said device information in the table if the means for receiving receives a delete signal when the removable memory is extracted and for updating the table with a latest device information for the terminal device currently being used by said user,

means for identifying said type of terminal device being accessed by said user and for authenticating said user by referring to said registered information,

means for converting message information addressed to said authenticated user from a first data format incompatible with said the type of said terminal device to a second data format compatible with said the type of said terminal device based on said terminal type attributes and said media type attributes of said terminal device being used by the user, and

means for transmitting said converted message information to said terminal device <u>currently being</u> used by the user by referring to said updated table.